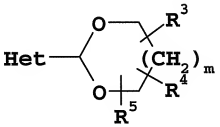
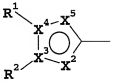
Amendment of the Claims

1. (currently amended) A compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein:-

Het is a five heteroaromatic ring of the formula 

in which R^1 is optionally substituted aryl, and R^2 is 4-pyridyl; wherein aryl is selected from: phenyl and naphthyl; and aryl optional substitution is with one or more ~~subtituents~~ substituents selected from: acyl, acylamino, alkoxy, alkoxycarbonyl, alkylenedioxy, alkylsulphinyl, alkylsulphonyl, alkylthio, aroyl, aroylamino, aryl, arylalkyloxy, arylalkyloxycarbonyl, arylalkylthio, aryloxy, aryloxycarbonyl, arylsulphinyl, arylsulphonyl, arylthio, carboxy, cyano, halo, ~~heteroaroyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyloxy, heteroaroylamino, heteroaryloxy,~~ hydroxy, nitro, trifluoromethyl, Y^3Y^4N-, Y^3Y^4NCO-, $Y^3Y^4NSO_2$-, Y^3Y^4N-C_{2-6}alkylene-Z^1- (where Z^1 is O, NR^5 or $S(O)_n$), alkylC(=O)-Y^3N-, alkylSO_2-Y^3N- or alkyl optionally substituted with aryl, ~~heteroaryl,~~ hydroxy, or Y^3Y^4N-;

X^2 is CH, X^3 is C, X^4 is N and X^5 is N;

R^3 represents a group -L^1-R^6;

R^4 represents hydrogen, alkyl or hydroxyalkyl; or

R^3 and R^4, when attached to the same carbon atom, may form with the said carbon atom a cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl or a group $C{=}CH_2$;

R^5 represents hydrogen or alkyl;

R^6 is hydrogen, alkyl, azido, hydroxy, alkoxy, aryl, arylalkyloxy, aryloxy, carboxy, an acid bioisostere selected from the group consisting of C(=O) NHOH, -C(=O)-CH_2OH, -C(=O)-CH_2SH, C(=O) NH-CN,

sulpho, phosphono, alkylsulphonylcarbamoyl, ~~tetrazolyl,~~ arylsulphonylcarbamoyl, N methoxycarbamoyl, or 3 hydroxy-3-cyclobutene-1,2-dione, ~~3,5-dioxo-1,2,4-oxadiazolidinyl, 3 hydroxyisoxazolyl and 3 hydoxy 1 methylpyrazolyl,~~ cycloalkyl, cycloalkyloxy, nitro, $-NY^1Y^2$, $-N(R^7)-C(=Z)-R^8$, $-N(R^7)-C(=Z)-L^2-R^9$, $-NH-C(=Z)-NH-R^8$, $-NH-C(=Z)-NH-L^2-R^9$, $-N(R^7)-SO_2-R^8$, $-N(R^7)-SO_2-L^2-R^9$, $-S(O)_nR^{10}$, $-C(=Z)-NY^1Y^2$ or $-C(=Z)-OR^{10}$;

R^7 is hydrogen, alkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, or cycloalkyl, ~~heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, or heterocycloalkyl;~~

R^8 is alkyl, alkoxy, aryl, arylalkyloxy, or cycloalkyl, ~~heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyloxy or heterocycloalkyl;~~

R^9 is alkoxy, aryl, arylalkyloxy, arylalkyloxycarbonylamino, carboxy, an acid bioisostere selected from the group consisting of C(=O) NHOH, $-C(=O)-CH_2OH$, $-C(=O)-CH_2SH$, C(=O) NH-CN, sulpho, phosphono, alkylsulphonylcarbamoyl, ~~tetrazolyl,~~ arylsulphonylcarbamoyl, ~~heteroarylsulphonylcarbamoyl,~~ N methoxycarbamoyl, 3 hydroxy-3-cyclobutene-1,2-dione, ~~3,5-dioxo-1,2,4-oxadiazolidinyl, 3 hydroxyisoxazolyl and 3 hydoxy 1 methylpyrazolyl,~~ cycloalkyl, cyano, halo, ~~heteroaryl, heteroarylalkoxy, heterocycloalkyl,~~ hydroxy or $-NY^3Y^4$;

R^{10} is alkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, or cycloalkyl, ~~heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, or heterocycloalkyl;~~

L^1 represents a direct bond or a straight- or branched-chain alkylene linkage containing from 1 to 6 carbon atoms and optionally substituted by halogen, hydroxy, alkoxy or oxo;

L^2 is a straight- or branched-chain alkylene linkage containing from 1 to 6 carbon atoms;

Y^1 and Y^2 are independently hydrogen, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, cycloalkyl, ~~heterocycloalkyl, heteroaryl~~ or alkyl optionally substituted by alkoxy, aryl, cyano, cycloalkyl, ~~heteroaryl, heterocycloalkyl,~~ hydroxy, oxo, $-CO_2R^7$, $-CONY^3Y^4$ or $-NY^3Y^4$, ~~or the group NY^1Y^2 may form a 5-7 membered cyclic amine which (i) may be optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from alkoxy, carboxamido, carboxy, hydroxy, oxo (or a 5, 6,or 7 membered cyclic acetal derivative thereof), alkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, cycloalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, or heterocycloalkyl or alkyl substituted by carboxy, carboxamido or hydroxy (ii) may also contain a further heteroatom selected from O, S, SO_2 or NY^5 and (iii) may also be fused to additional aryl, heteroaryl, heterocycloalkyl or cycloalkyl rings to form a bicyclic or tricyclic ring system;~~

Y^3 and Y^4 are independently hydrogen, alkenyl, alkyl, alkynyl, aryl, arylalkyl, or cycloalkyl, ~~heteroaryl or heteroarylalkyl, or the group NY^3Y^4 may form a 5-7 membered cyclic amine as defined for NY^1Y^2 above;~~

Y^5 is hydrogen, alkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, $-C(=Z)R^{10}$, $-C(=Z)OR^{10}$ or $-SO_2R^{10}$;

Z is an oxygen or sulphur atom;

m is an integer 1; and

n is zero or an integer 1 or 2;

or an N-oxide thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof~~, or~~.

2. (cancelled)

3. (cancelled)

4. (cancelled)

5. (cancelled)

6. (cancelled)

7. (cancelled)

8. (cancelled)

9. (cancelled)

10. (cancelled)

11. (previously presented) A compound according to Claim 1 in which R^3 and R^4 are both C_{1-4}alkyl groups.

12. (previously presented) A compound according to Claim 1 in which R^3 is -C(=O)-NY^1Y^2 (where $Y^1$and Y^2 are as defined in Claim 1) and R^4 is C_{1-4}alkyl.

13. (previously presented) A compound according to Claim 12 in which Y^1 is hydrogen and Y^2 is alkyl or cycloalkyl.

14. (cancelled)

15. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to Claim 1 together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.

16-20 (cancelled)